

Impact on employment Student stories from The Milner, York

The Milner York has been in formal partnership with All Saints School and Sixth Form since 2024. The hotel regularly facilitates engagements with the school to nurture a talent pipeline. Meet 3 students that have been hired as a result of the partnership:



Lily Oxley, Waitress

Has been working at The Milner for 2 years now, as a breakfast service waitress. She has found that the 8am till 1pm shift on weekends has fitted well around her studying and revision for exams.

A self-confessed 'formerly shy person' Lily described how much confidence she has gained during her time at The Milner as well as customer service skills. She said:

“With this job you get the opportunity to speak to a variety of people and engage with different people’s needs. I have gained a lot of confidence here.”

Currently, Lily is studying Mathematics at University in York and staying at home. When asked what advice she would give to a younger student she said:

“You have got to put yourself out there – I think you’re not going to get any opportunities or be able to develop if you don’t try, and you’ll find more often than not everyone’s really friendly and welcoming.”

Patrick Heinemeyer, Waiter

Patrick originally did work experience at a bakery in York and then applied for a role at The Milner. Having finished A Levels, he is on a gap year enjoying gaining experience, earning money and exploring his passion for photography. Patrick is enrolling at University of Bristol in Sept26 and is keen to stay within hospitality during his studies, having gained valuable skills during his time at The Milner. Patrick said:

“I have gained a lot of confidence in speaking with the public, being able to deal with any question or problems that come our way in this role. The more time I have spent talking with different people, including my manager and colleagues I have learned how to overcome different scenarios”

Patrick is a keen photographer and is considering different careers he could have with his combined skillset. When asked what advice he would give to a younger student he said:

“I would say that a job in hospitality helps you mature, make new friends and develop your communication skills – it has been great working here and I would definitely recommend it!”



Kathryn Clague, Events Team Member

Kathryn started working at The Milner when she was 17, in year 12 at All Saints Sixth Form. She said:

“This job has definitely helped me to gain skills and use my voice more, I think speaking up is a big part of being a team member and being able to support each other. We are all treated equally here so we all feel comfortable sharing opinions and helping across teams as its such a huge hotel”

Kathryn is heading to Newcastle to study English Literature in Sept26 – having completed a gap year where she was able to save money, travel and gain skills. She also supported the sister hotel to The Milner with their re-opening party at The Met in Leeds which gave her a new insight into events and working in a large team to pull off a very special event. Asked to share advice to a younger student, Kathryn said:

“Don’t put it off to take that step, if you feel comfortable in a hotel environment, then go for it and apply as its an easier transition for you if you are already familiar – make sure to show some confidence in your interview!”